

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/659,254
Response filed March 17, 2006
Reply to OA dated December 19, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled).

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): An apparatus for regulating state of charge in a battery
2 assembly including a plurality of secondary cells as unit cells which are connected in series,
3 said apparatus comprising;
4 voltage detecting means for detecting respective voltages across said unit cells, and
5 equalizing means for equalizing the respective voltages across said unit cells by transferring
6 electric charge from the largest unit cell having the largest voltage across the cell to a capacitor, and
7 thereafter, by transferring the electric charge from said capacitor to the smallest unit cell having the
8 smallest voltage across the cell,
9 wherein said equalizing means transfers the electric charge from said largest unit cell to said
10 capacitor so that the voltage of said capacitor may be made higher than the voltage across said largest
11 unit cell,
12 wherein said equalizing means ~~connects~~ is a voltage converter of which input is connected

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13 to said largest unit cell and of which output is connected to said capacitor ~~by way of a voltage~~
14 ~~converter.~~

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The apparatus for regulating state of charge as claimed in
2 claim 3, wherein said voltage converter is of a voltage raising type which will ~~raise~~ convert the
3 voltage ~~across~~ inputted from said largest unit cell up to the largest operational voltage of said unit
4 cells.

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